THE SECOND DAY.

5TH JANUARY 1907.

The Assembly met again at 12 noon on Saturday the 5th January 1907.

46. Extension of the period of Kuthagapattom lease to 12 years.

Mr. Krishnan Narayanan (Ampalapuzha) said that many cocoanut trees standing on Sirkar lands were given on Kuthagapattom lease in Ampalapuzha and other taluks, but as the period of the lease had been recently reduced to one year, the lessees found the tenure in no way advantageous to them, while in many cases it was not possible for Government to get lessees at all. He suggested that 12 years might be fixed as a reasonable term for such leases as thereby the interests of the ryots as well as the Government could be secured.

Reply.—There is no hard and fast rule on the subject. Each case will depend on its merits, and as long a term will be allowed as will secure to the ryot the benefit of his improvements, preserving at the same time the interests of Government.

47. Reduction of assessment on jenmom lands when jenmies sell their rights over them.

Mr. Narayanan Jatavedar Namburipad (Muvattupuzha) represented that the assessment now imposed on jenmom lands when the jenmies sold their rights on them was unfairly heavy and should be reduced. He added that the Huzur order under which this was done could not have the force of law as it was not passed in the Legislative Council.

Reply.—The conditions having changed by such sale, it does not appear necessary to continue the special concession. When a jenmi parts with his property, it changes its character and becomes almost like any ordinary property. Still, having regard to its original incidence, some concession is even now shown. This is a matter of assessment and does not require legislative sanction. Government regret they cannot re-open the question.

48. Desirability of modifying the rules for the recovery of the value of trees standing on Puduvals.

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